



The Arlington Advocate



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Arlington resident Robert Cutler conducts research at Spy Pond, where he volunteers.

STAFF PHOTOS BY LEAH FASTEN

Autism doesn't stop Robert Cutler

Activist making a difference

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

The words come slowly, but they carry much weight. Sitting in front of a Dell personal computer, 45-year-old Robert Cutler draws his responses to questions. Key by key, the words come forward. A slice of irony here, a bit of hyperbole there; it's clear, a little repetitive at times, but intent on making a point. He occasionally rumbles or groans, sometimes in syncope with the typing.

Sitting next to Cutler is Mark Powell, who has worked with Cutler for many years. His face is blank as he guides Cutler's hands and thick fingers across the keyboard. Occasionally, he will fix a typo or add an exclamation point, but otherwise Cutler lets Powell steady his hand. A sentence takes about two to three minutes; a full response 10 to 12.

But the time does not feel wasted.

Robert Cutler has autism, a disability, difference, whatever one wants to call it. He requires help with daily functions; he has a live-in roommate who helps him and additional people who work with him on a daily basis. He requires repetitive devices, like counters and clocks, that provide repetition, rhythm, to keep him calm.

He, like many disabled people, was once institutionalized because his mother, Barbara, perceived him as a danger. And like



Robert Cutler gets a hug from his friend, Mark Powell, at Cutler's home.

many in the system, Robert Cutler came out of that system a different person than when he went in. One with black eyes, a red nose, a scarred psyche.

Though there are some functions Robert Cutler cannot perform, there are plenty of things he achieves quite easily.

Cutler owns his own home on Theresa Circle, due to the lawsuit settlement against the Fernald State School for the abuse he endured there. He is the presi-

dent of the Autism National Committee.

He is an appointed member of the Massachusetts Governor's Council on Disabilities Commission that now doesn't meet at state institutions because Cutler put pressure on them not to do so. He is a regular guest to human service agencies and universities on autism, having traveled as far as England to tell his story. He used to run a paper recycling business on Massachusetts

Avenue, Robert Cutler and Associates, "until it got to the point where we'd lose money," Powell said. He volunteers at and advocates for Spy Pond.

In 1999, Cutler testified at a Supreme Court case (Olmsted vs. L.C. and E.W.) that examined the rights of disabled persons to live in community settings, a right the court reaffirmed in a 6-3 ruling. One excerpt of his testimony said "enough with institutions!"

■ SEE CUTLER, PAGE 15

Guidance plan concerns AHS parents, teens

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

It's 10 a.m. on Monday and Arlington High School's Guidance Department is a bustling place.

On one side of the room, college pennants hang on the walls and information is available about schools, scholarships, SATs, and financial aid. Many students are hanging out in the center of the office at a group of desks, reading college catalogs or just talking. Other students are sitting one-on-one with counselors.

Students consider the office just off the main lobby of the high school a lifeline for their future, but also a place where they can just hang out.

"People come here all the time," said senior Lauren Miranian. "It's very informal and people feel comfortable."

Part of the reason that guidance is such a place of solace for high school students is the staff, particularly Director Vincent D'Antona, retiring after 39 years in the school system and 22 years in the slot of director of guidance in March.

D'Antona, according to students, has created an atmosphere of comfort in dealing with two of the most stressful aspects of being a teenager: confronting personal problems and finding the right college.

"You don't really realize until you have a senior at the high school just the gamut of services that guidance offers," said Linda Miranian, Lauren's mother, who was a student in D'Antona's math

class when she was at Arlington High School.

But with D'Antona retiring next month, parents and students say they are concerned that some potential changes to his position will leave the department with less of a guiding force.

The director said he was reluctant to talk about changes since he will have no role in how they play out, but "I really hope that services are preserved here," he said.

D'Antona will speak at the next School Committee meeting on Tuesday to explain the role of guidance and parents are expected to present a petition with more than 100 signatures expressing concern about potential changes in the department.

For the 2003 fiscal budget year, where the public schools so far have to make nearly \$1 million in cuts, Superintendent of Schools Kay Donovan and Chief Financial Officer David Kale expect to save almost \$51,000 by eliminating the guidance director's position and making the head of guidance similar to a "lead teacher" model. The school system would also reduce the lead teacher's caseload.

If the position is changed and Donovan stressed that it's "not set in stone yet," the schools will take "away some of the excess work that [the system] paid them to do during the summer," she said, referring to the director of guidance position.

The director of guidance now is a 12-month job. Under the designation of lead teacher, it would

■ SEE GUIDANCE, PAGE 15

Proposed entrance policy tweaked

Plan would put decision on parents

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Additional changes in the recommendations to change the kindergarten entrance age would leave no formal enforcement of changes until 2005, according to a policy approved by the School Committee's Policy and Procedures Subcommittee last Thursday.

The subcommittee voted 2-1 to take out language in the previously proposed policy that would have required parents to seek a waiver if their child did not meet the entrance age to enroll into kindergarten.

The school system asked to change the cutoff date from Dec. 31 to Aug. 31 after a report produced by the administration showed that the vast majority of

public school systems have a Sept. 1 cutoff date.

It also argued that evidence shows children with fall birthdays have more academic problems in school and younger children have trouble focusing for a full day of kindergarten.

According to the previous plan, students would have been required to reach the age of 5 by Aug. 31 to attend kindergarten starting in the fall of 2003. But under the current recommendation, any parent whose child's birthday falls between Aug. 31 and Dec. 31 can enroll the child as long as they know "it is inconsistent with the recommendations of the Arlington Public Schools and its early education professionals," according to the recommendation.

■ SEE KINDERGARTEN, PAGE 14

Reich has super day, bowls over field in local caucus

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

If the Democratic Caucus were to be compared to a basketball game, the story in Arlington last Saturday is that a point guard slam dunked over two power forwards.

Robert Reich, he of the small frame but apparently the large organization, rode the efforts of a grass-roots campaign and the political support of state Rep. Jim Marzilli to pull a virtual upset sweep of Arlington's 36 delegates.

"It's actually remarkable. A lot of people attended the caucus, who I did not recognize. I didn't do all that much," said Marzilli.

While Reich formally pulled 33 of the 36 delegates, one of the uncommitted (Redevelopment Board member Norm Mann) is Reich's local campaign manager and another (David Curren) has already

expressed support for the former U.S. Secretary of Labor. Only Kevin Knobloch, the vice chairman of the local Democratic Committee, goes to the convention without declaring support for one of the Democratic hopefuls.

Reich beat out among others State Senate President Thomas Birmingham and State Treasurer Shannon O'Brien, expected to fare well in Arlington among established Democrats. As the long process of tallying votes neared its end on the stage of Arlington High School's Lowe Auditorium, Birmingham local campaign manager Selectman Jack Hurd knew a surprise was brewing.

"These people obviously did their homework," said Hurd. "It's obvious Reich has more people in the room than anybody else. I heard that at least few hundred people signed up to register as Democrats in

■ SEE CAUCUS, PAGE 14



Robert Reich greets Democrats outside Arlington High School Saturday before town Democrats voted in their local caucus. Reich supporters were the overwhelming winners in Arlington.

STAFF PHOTO BY LEAH FASTEN

INSIDE

Cast your ballot

Inside this week's newspaper, on Page 26, is a ballot for our Reader's Choice awards. Balloting will continue through February, and votes will be tabulated by an independent firm. Reader's Choice winners will be announced in June. Readers may also cast votes online at www.townonline.com.

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FOR THE RECORD

POLICE LOG

The following are excerpts from the Arlington Police Department log. The log is available to the public.

Monday, Jan. 28

• At 8:24 p.m., a Massachusetts Avenue gas station attendant reported that a customer left without paying \$15 for gasoline.

• At 10:31 p.m., a Henderson Street resident told police that \$20 in change and 65 CDs were stolen from a motor vehicle. The resident was unsure whether the car was locked.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

• At 10:41 a.m., police responded to Teel Street, where a resident told police that an unlocked motor vehicle was rummaged.

• At 12:46 p.m., a Swan Place resident told police that a credit card was used fraudulently for \$600.

• At 1:33 p.m., a Broadway business reported that money was missing. Police are investigating the incident.

Wednesday, Jan. 30

• At 11 a.m., a Summer Street resident told police that a front window was damaged, possibly by a BB pellet.

• At 2:52 p.m., police responded to a call concerning a missing wedding ring from a Lowell Street home. The item was possibly stolen by a mover. Police are investigating the incident.

• At 7:18 p.m., an Oak Hill Drive resident reported a burglary, in which jewelry was taken. Police are investigating as to whether the

incident is connected to several daytime housebreaks in North Cambridge by an Hispanic male, who was driving a charcoal gray station wagon or hatchback. The car, which has a registration of 5585VE, was cancelled out of Lynn and could be associated with housebreaks in Peabody.

Thursday, Jan. 31

• At 9:15 a.m., a Cutter Hill Road resident told police that 400 CDs were taken from an unlocked car.

• At 3:23 p.m., police responded to a call regarding a stolen 1992 Plymouth Acclaim from Massachusetts Avenue.

Friday, Feb. 1

• At 10:24 a.m., a Warren Street resident reported that someone had fraudulently used a credit card.

• At 10:51 a.m., police were called to Concord Turnpike where a man reported that he was taken for \$300. He said he received a call from a person who was collecting money from a Mystic Street shelter (which doesn't exist). The victim met with a man at a bus stop and gave the suspect a check for \$300. He was able to give police the suspect's name and police found the flimflam artist, who has outstanding warrants for his arrest. Police are also seeking charges.

• At 12:20 p.m., the Police Department received a call regarding a man pleasuring himself on Massachusetts Avenue, while inside a burgundy Toyota Terrel

Arrests

Monday, Jan. 28

• At 10:45 p.m., police arrested Mark Francis Hartman, 29, 35 Neponset Ave., Dorchester, and charged him with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. Officer Gregory Flavin responded to a call regarding a car stuck in mud at Clark and Forest streets. Flavin found the car caught on a large embankment and saw that Hartman was unsteady on his feet. The officer arrested Hartman to perform field sobriety tests, which he failed. Flavin arrested Hartman.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

• At 5:38 a.m., police arrested Elizabeth Rodriguez, no age given, 122 Decatur St., and charged her with domestic assault and battery. Officer Stephen Krepelka made the arrest.

• At 9:30 a.m., police arrested three juveniles and charged them with malicious destruction of property more than \$250. Officer John Flanagan responded to the scene at Germaine Lawrence and was told that three girls were breaking light fixtures, a file cabinet, and a door. Flanagan arrested the three teens.

wagon with New Hampshire plates. The men left the area before police arrived.

• At 4:26 p.m., a Gardner Street resident told police that a branch broke a motor vehicle mirror.

Saturday, Feb. 2

• At 5:54 p.m., a motorist reported that a motor vehicle was broken into and a pocketbook was stolen.

• At 8:05 p.m., an employee of a Massachusetts Avenue business reported that someone stole his wallet, which included \$1,148 and credit cards, from his jacket.

Sunday, Feb. 3

• At 11:08 a.m., a Arnold Street

resident told police that two Jeep doors were stolen.

• At 10:09 p.m., police received the first of five noise complaints concerning people celebrating the New England Patriots' Super Bowl. Within the next 45 minutes, police were sent to Massachusetts Avenue, Oakland Avenue, Eastern Avenue, Park Avenue, and Water Street for people cheering, running through an intersection, and yelling in the streets.

• At 11:09 p.m., Arlington police responded to Somerville to help that city's police restore order after a brawl broke out in a Davis Square bar.

FIRE LOG

The Arlington Fire Department responded to 70 calls from Jan. 28 to Feb. 3, including 40 with Rescue, nine fire alarms, and eight investigations. References to paramedics denote two-medical teams from Armstrong Ambulance Service, a private Arlington-based ambulance company. The following are excerpts from the Fire Department log; the information is available to the public.

Monday, Jan. 28

• At 10:20 a.m., the Fire Department received a call concerning an 18-month-old boy who fell and hit his forehead against a bed's metal frame on Newcomb Road. Firefighters placed ice on the boy's head, controlled bleeding, and checked his vital signs. Rescue transported the youngster to Winchester Hospital.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

• At 10:52 a.m., an 84-year-old Drake Road resident complained of having shortness of breath. Firefighters checked the woman's oxygen saturation level, which was low, administered oxygen, and checked her vital signs. Rescue with paramedics transported the woman to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

Wednesday, Jan. 30

• At 4:34 a.m., Engine 2 and Ladder 2 responded to the second fire alarm at a Lexington business. They vented the roof by using chain saws.

Saturday, Feb. 2

• At 3:14 a.m., a 79-year-old Bay State Road resident complained of having trouble breathing. Firefighters checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue transported the patient to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

• At 4:19 a.m., firefighters responded to an oil burner problem on Melanie Lane. They discovered that the issue was caused by a delayed ignition and the basement was full of smoke. Firefighters ventilated the home and shut down the burner.

Sunday, Feb. 3

• At 12:55 p.m., a 58-year-old Pond Lane resident complained of having shortness of breath. Firefighters checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue transported the patient to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

MEETINGS

Thursday, Feb. 7

- Conservation Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second-floor conference room.
- Zoning Bylaw Review Committee meets at 8 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, first floor.

Monday, Feb. 11

- Board of Selectmen meets at 7:15 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, second floor.

Tuesday, Feb. 12

- School Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.
- Transportation Advisory Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second floor.
- Park and Recreation Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Whittemore-Robbins House. The Crosby Playground project is on the agenda.
- Zoning Board of Appeals meets at 7:45 p.m. in the Town Hall, second-floor hearing room.

Wednesday, Feb. 13

- Fair Housing Advisory Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. at 20 Academy St., Room 203.
- Friends of Robbins Farm Park meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Jefferson-Cutter House.

2002 Town Election

Calendar

- Monday, Feb. 11 — Last day for Town Meeting members who are candidates for reelection to notify Town Clerk's office
- Thursday, Feb. 14 — Last day for obtaining blank nomination papers
- Tuesday, Feb. 19 — Last day for submitting nomination papers to the registrar of voters for certification of signatures
- Monday, March 4 — Last day for filing nomination papers with Town Clerk's office
- Wednesday, March 6 — Last day for filing withdrawals of and/or objections to nomination papers
- Thursday, March 7 — Drawing of names for position on ballot

- Monday, March 18 — Last day to register voters for Town Election
- Saturday, April 6 — Annual Town Election

Numbers of signatures needs to be certified

- Town-wide offices — Nomination papers must be properly signed by at least 50 voters
- Town Meeting members — Must receive signatures of at least 10 voters of the precinct in which the candidate resides

Candidates

- Board of Selectmen — Charles Lyons, incumbent

Diane Mahon, incumbent
Jeffrey Anderson

Town Treasurer
John Bilafer, incumbent

Town Clerk
Corinne M. Rainville, incumbent

School Committee
Joani LaMachia, incumbent
Barbara Goodman, incumbent
Martin Thrope, incumbent

Board of Assessors
Mary Winstanley O'Connor, incumbent

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LEGAL NOTICE

SECTION 8 WAITING LIST OPENING

The Arlington Housing Authority will be accepting applications for the Section 8 Waiting List in accordance with the provisions of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended. A Lottery System will be used; there is no advantage to being first to apply. Arlington Housing Authority has not been awarded any additional Vouchers. Vouchers will be issued based on future turnover. We will be distributing applications at the Housing Authority office at 4 Winslow Street, Arlington, MA on the following dates:

Tuesday, February 19, 2002	from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Wednesday, February 20, 2002	from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Thursday, February 21, 2002	from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM and 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Friday, February 22, 2002	from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

You may qualify for this program if your Gross Family Income is less than:

Total Family Members	Income Limit	Total Family Members	Income Limit
1	\$24,500	5	\$37,800
2	\$28,000	6	\$40,600
3	\$31,500	7	\$43,400
4	\$35,000	8	\$46,200

Applications may be requested in person or by phone during the four-day period. If you have a disability and require an accommodation, please call 781-646-3400, extension 19. For an application to be considered, it must be returned no later than March 4, 2002 at 4:00 PM at the Arlington Housing Authority office or be postmarked no later than that date and time. **Copies, Facsimile or E-mail applications will not be accepted. Applications must be completed fully, signed and dated. No documentation is necessary at this time.**

The Lottery will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2002 at 12:00 NOON at the Arlington Housing Authority office for all applications received by the deadline.

Applications will be accepted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, or marital status.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Arlington Housing Authority, 4 Winslow Street, Arlington, MA 02474-3062, 781-646-3400

Candidate steps forward

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Some Arlingtonians may remember Jeffrey Anderson as the 18-year-old candidate for selectmen five years ago. In the five years since he lost his bid for office, Anderson has enrolled in the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, majoring in political science, and watched Arlington politics from a distance.

Now, the college senior is ready for a second run for selectmen and hopes this time to attract a respectable number of votes and bring out an influx of new voters.

"My main goal is to at least get people involved in the democratic process who wouldn't normally get involved," said Anderson, dressed casually in a New England Patriots' long sleeve T-shirt after returning home from his 140-mile, three-day a week commute to New Bedford.

Anderson makes the journey to UMass-Dartmouth Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. He said he plans to attend graduate school in the fall (closer to home) and major in public administration. He also works at the Xerves Elementary School in Newton in an after-school program.

With only a week remaining for candidates to take out papers for election, it has been a quiet political season thus far. No one really expected a candidate to emerge and challenge the two strong selectmen incumbents up for re-election this year — Diane Mahon and Chairman Charles Lyons.

But that's exactly why he is running, Anderson said.

"There is a kind of political culture in Arlington... I don't want to call it insider, but I think the reason people don't run is that there is a perception that you need to know a select group of people in order to get elected,"

said the 23-year-old.

This is a similar statement to when Anderson ran in 1997, although he admits he said it harsher back then when he was all of 18. Five years ago, there was an open seat on the board and a host of candidates ran for the slot along with incumbent Kathleen Kiely Dias, including Mahon and Paul Schlichtman, now a School Committee member. Jack Hurd took that open slot and Anderson received just more than 100 votes as a high school senior.

It is frustrating that more people his age do not join the political process, Anderson said.

Not that he feels that either Lyons or Mahon is doing a particularly bad job. In fact, he praised both of them, calling Mahon "very well spoken and pretty down to earth. And everybody knows Charlie Lyons," he said.

When asked the benign question of what was one thing that both of them could do better, he thought about it for a few minutes and said, "I don't really want to focus on anything negative. I guess that makes me a different kind of politician," he said, laughing. "I don't spend any money and I don't say anything bad about anybody else."

Anderson goes door-to-door with homemade fliers and his dad, a carpenter, makes homemade signs.

"The fact that candidates can spend thousands of dollars on a local election is just absurd," he said.

In the long run, Anderson said he wants to do better than he did last time and bring people out to the voting booths. Unfortunately, the renewed interest in public affairs that has accompanied the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks has not trickled down to local government.

"But that's why I'm running — to change that," he said.



Jeffrey Anderson

Fewer items on this year's Town Meeting warrant

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

A total of 73 articles will appear before the town's legislative body at this year's Town Meeting, including citizen initiatives decrying the state's affordable housing law, promoting the idea of public power, and at least two articles asking Arlington to become more "green."

The total is less than the 95 articles that took eight sessions, or a full month, to complete in 2001. Yet there appears to be an increase in the scope, if not the amount, of voter-based petitions looking to make changes in public policy.

Paul Schlichtman's campaign that seeks to study just how feasible bringing a public power utility for Arlington has already piqued many people's interest. While it hasn't been done in more than 70 years by any Massachusetts community, Schlichtman has said both in interviews and at a recent Finance Committee hearing that a public utility would both reduce electric bills and restore reliability.

Recently, the state's Department of Telecommunications and Energy requested a \$22.5 million fine be levied against private utility NStar to penalize the company for the outbreak of power outages that occurred last summer.

Saving energy in a different form comprises Article 22, which asks town officials to purchase more fuel-efficient vehicles provided they "fulfill the intended municipal function." While no one expects cops to be driving Honda Civics anytime soon, the article asks for "the most fuel-efficient car available" that meets qualifications.

The well-organized, well-funded and now lawyer-represented Friends of Poet's Corner submitted three policy-based articles.

One asks the town to publicly condemn the state's so-called "anti-snob" zoning law, or Chapter 40B. Designed to increase and provide equitable affordable housing if a community fails to achieve a 10 percent quota, 40B lets a developer appeal local zoning restrictions such as the density of units per acre if 25 percent of the developer's units are affordably priced.

"We realize that it's not just a Poets Corner question we're asking, but a question to everybody," said Poets Corner leader Charles Gallagher.

The article goes as far as to ask the state to waive the provisions of the bylaw if a city or town takes its own initiative by passing measures establishing quotas for affordable housing, something Arlington did two years ago.

The second article asks the town's conservation officials to consider a piece of wetlands that has been cut off from other wet areas because of human activity. The article proposes that the same level of protection be given to that tract of land as normal wetlands. The state calls pieces of land, such as the few wet acres on the St. Camillus property where the Archdiocese would like to build housing, isolated land, which gives the land less protection.

A third asks for developers to pay an additional bond if they build on property 200 yards from a stream or wetland. The bond would be held for five years and constitute 20 percent of the property's value.

Store owners have pulled together to try and rescind the increased fee to sell cigarettes and tobacco products. A \$500 fee was approved last year at the request of Town Meeting member John Deyst after the Board of Health recommended an increase from \$25 to \$100.

"Twenty-five dollars was

ridiculously low, but I can understand how \$500 is a lot to a small business owner," said Carole Allen, chairman of the Board of Health.

Other citizen initiatives include alleviating non-profit businesses of the zoning requirement governing signs, establishing a committee on how funds from the passing of the Community Preservation Act could be used, and implementing a provision that any speaker before Town Meeting make public any financial gain to be rendered from the question at hand.

Government Articles

On the school side, the Arlington School Committee requested funding to build a field house in back of Arlington High School. The field house is one of the tenets of the deal between the town and industrial polluters to clean up the Warren A. Peirce Field and adjoining areas. A foundation of a potential field house would cap contaminated soil that lies beneath.

The Capital Planning Committee denied including a field house in its budget this year and the School Committee will ask Town Meeting voters for support of the article.

An additional amount of money is required to finish the Hardy Elementary School, also included in a warrant article.

The Redevelopment Board has asked to incorporate changes in

its environmental design review, a new set of regulations governing potential developments. The board also submitted an article that sets regulations that incorporate bicycle parking into parking regulations throughout the town.

In addition, one of the pledges the town committed to in purchasing the former Symmes Hospital campus is that it would give money back to residents to reduce the tax rate once the property generated revenue. A warrant article asks Town Meeting to approve home rule legislation to implement that pledge.

The Arlington Advocate will publish articles dealing with specific warrant articles as Town Meeting approaches.

For Cats Only!

Cats have teeth too... these signs indicate the need for immediate dental care:

- red or swollen gums
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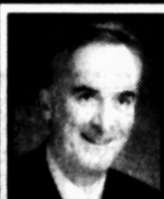
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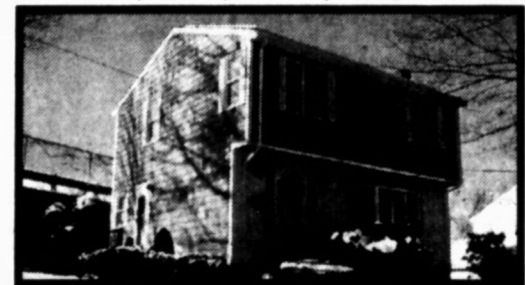
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Mary Murray



Kathryn Mazzone



Arlington: Charming home! Living room w/2 FP's and skylight, beamed ceiling in DR. Large kitchen and yard. New Pierce School. **\$435,000**



Arlington: Spacious one bedroom Condo in Old Colony. Eat-in-kitchen, great closet space, tiled bath. Parking and pool. **Only \$149,000**



Arlington: Millbrook Condominium! 2 level loft style 1 BR unit with garage parking, 1.5 baths. Large windows. Great location. **\$179,000**



Arlington: Affordable 3 bedroom Ranch with fireplaced family room, large fenced yard and garage. A/C. Convenient to bus. **Low \$300s**



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Carol Suslowicz



Kathy Calandrella



Ted Griffin



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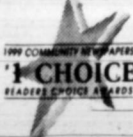
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FOR THE RECORD

POLICE LOG

The following are excerpts from the Arlington Police Department log. The log is available to the public.

Monday, Jan. 28

• At 8:24 p.m., a Massachusetts Avenue gas station attendant reported that a customer left without paying \$15 for gasoline.

• At 10:31 p.m., a Henderson Street resident told police that \$20 in change and 65 CDs were stolen from a motor vehicle. The resident was unsure whether the car was locked.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

• At 10:41 a.m., police responded to Teel Street, where a resident told police that an unlocked motor vehicle was rummaged.

• At 12:46 p.m., a Swan Place resident told police that a credit card was used fraudulently for \$600.

• At 1:33 p.m., a Broadway business reported that money was missing. Police are investigating the incident.

Wednesday, Jan. 30

• At 11 a.m., a Summer Street resident told police that a front window was damaged, possibly by a BB pellet.

• At 2:52 p.m., police responded to a call concerning a missing wedding ring from a Lowell Street home. The item was possibly stolen by a mover. Police are investigating the incident.

• At 7:18 p.m., an Oak Hill Drive resident reported a burglary, in which jewelry was taken. Police are investigating as to whether the

incident is connected to several daytime housebreaks in North Cambridge by an Hispanic male, who was driving a charcoal gray station wagon or hatchback. The car, which has a registration of 5585VE, was cancelled out of Lynn and could be associated with housebreaks in Peabody.

Thursday, Jan. 31

• At 9:15 a.m., a Cutter Hill Road resident told police that 400 CDs were taken from an unlocked car.

• At 3:23 p.m., police responded to a call regarding a stolen 1992 Plymouth Acclaim from Massachusetts Avenue.

Friday, Feb. 1

• At 10:24 a.m., a Warren Street resident reported that someone had fraudulently used a credit card.

• At 10:51 a.m., police were called to Concord Turnpike where a man reported that he was taken from a person who was collecting money from a Mystic Street shelter (which doesn't exist). The victim met with a man at a bus stop and gave the suspect a check for \$300. He was able to give police the suspect's name and police found the flimflam artist, who has outstanding warrants for his arrest. Police are also seeking charges.

• At 12:20 p.m., the Police Department received a call regarding a man pleasuring himself on Massachusetts Avenue, while inside a burgundy Toyota Terrel

Arrests

Monday, Jan. 28

• At 10:45 p.m., police arrested Mark Francis Hartman, 29, 35 Neponset Ave., Dorchester, and charged him with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. Officer Gregory Flavin responded to a call regarding a car stuck in mud at Clark and Forest streets. Flavin found the car caught on a large embankment and saw that Hartman was unsteady on his feet. The officer arrested Hartman to perform field sobriety tests, which he failed. Flavin arrested Hartman.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

• At 5:38 a.m., police arrested Elizabeth Rodriguez, no age given, 122 Decatur St., and charged her with domestic assault and battery. Officer Stephen Krepelka made the arrest.

• At 9:30 a.m., police arrested three juveniles and charged them with malicious destruction of property more than \$250. Officer John Flanagan responded to the scene at Germaine Lawrence and was told that three girls were breaking light fixtures, a file cabinet, and a door. Flanagan arrested the three teens.

wagon with New Hampshire plates. The men left the area before police arrived.

• At 4:26 p.m., a Gardner Street resident told police that a branch broke a motor vehicle mirror.

Saturday, Feb. 2

• At 5:54 p.m., a motorist reported that a motor vehicle was broken into and a pocketbook was stolen.

• At 8:05 p.m., an employee of a Massachusetts Avenue business reported that someone stole his wallet, which included \$1,148 and credit cards, from his jacket.

Sunday, Feb. 3

• At 11:08 a.m., a Arnold Street

resident told police that two Jeep doors were stolen.

• At 10:09 p.m., police received the first of five noise complaints concerning people celebrating the New England Patriots' Super Bowl. Within the next 45 minutes, police were sent to Massachusetts Avenue, Oakland Avenue, Eastern Avenue, Park Avenue, and Water Street for people cheering, running through an intersection, and yelling in the streets.

• At 11:09 p.m., Arlington police responded to Somerville to help that city's police restore order after a brawl broke out in a Davis Square bar.

FIRE LOG

The Arlington Fire Department responded to 70 calls from Jan. 28 to Feb. 3, including 40 with Rescue, nine fire alarms, and eight investigations. References to paramedics denote two-medical teams from Armstrong Ambulance Service, a private Arlington-based ambulance company. The following are excerpts from the Fire Department log; the information is available to the public.

Monday, Jan. 28

• At 10:20 a.m., the Fire Department received a call concerning an 18-month-old boy who fell and hit his forehead against a bed's metal frame on Newcomb Road. Firefighters placed ice on the boy's head, controlled bleeding, and checked his vital signs. Rescue transported the youngster to Winchester Hospital.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

• At 10:52 a.m., an 84-year-old Drake Road resident complained of having shortness of breath. Firefighters checked the woman's oxygen saturation level, which was low, administered oxygen, and checked her vital signs. Rescue with paramedics transported the woman to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

Wednesday, Jan. 30

• At 4:34 a.m., Engine 2 and Ladder 2 responded to the second fire alarm at a Lexington business. They vented the roof by using chain saws.

Saturday, Feb. 2

• At 3:14 a.m., a 79-year-old Bay State Road resident complained of having trouble breathing. Firefighters checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue transported the patient to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

• At 4:19 a.m., firefighters responded to an oil burner problem on Melanie Lane. They discovered that the issue was caused by a delayed ignition and the basement was full of smoke. Firefighters ventilated the home and shut down the burner.

Sunday, Feb. 3

• At 12:55 p.m., a 58-year-old Pond Lane resident complained of having shortness of breath. Firefighters checked the man's vital signs and administered oxygen. Rescue transported the patient to Mt. Auburn Hospital.

MEETINGS

Thursday, Feb. 7

• Conservation Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second-floor conference room.
• Zoning Bylaw Review Committee meets at 8 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, first floor.

Monday, Feb. 11

• Board of Selectmen meets at 7:15 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, second floor.

Tuesday, Feb. 12

• School Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the School Committee Room, Arlington High School, sixth floor.
• Transportation Advisory Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex, second floor.
• Park and Recreation Commission meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Whittemore-Robbins House. The Crosby Playground project is on the agenda.
• Zoning Board of Appeals meets at 7:45 p.m. in the Town Hall, second-floor hearing room.

Wednesday, Feb. 13

• Fair Housing Advisory Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. at 20 Academy St., Room 203.
• Friends of Robbins Farm Park meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Jefferson-Cutter House.

2002 Town Election

Calendar

• Monday, Feb. 11 — Last day for Town Meeting members who are candidates for reelection to notify Town Clerk's office

• Thursday, Feb. 14 — Last day for obtaining blank nomination papers

• Tuesday, Feb. 19 — Last day for submitting nomination papers to the registrar of voters for certification of signatures

• Monday, March 4 — Last day for filing nomination papers with Town Clerk's office

• Wednesday, March 6 — Last day for filing withdrawals of and/or objections to nomination papers

• Thursday, March 7 — Drawing of names for position on ballot

• Monday, March 18 — Last day to register voters for Town Election

• Saturday, April 6 — Annual Town Election

Numbers of signatures needs to be certified

• Town-wide offices — Nomination papers must be properly signed by at least 50 voters

• Town Meeting members — Must receive signatures of at least 10 voters of the precinct in which the candidate resides

Candidates

Board of Selectmen
Charles Lyons, *incumbent*

Diane Mahon, *incumbent*
Jeffrey Anderson

Town Treasurer
John Bilafer, *incumbent*

Town Clerk
Corinne M. Rainville, *incumbent*

School Committee
Joani LaMachia, *incumbent*
Barbara Goodman, *incumbent*
Martin Thrope, *incumbent*

Board of Assessors
Mary Winstanley O'Connor, *incumbent*

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LEGAL NOTICE

SECTION 8 WAITING LIST OPENING

The Arlington Housing Authority will be accepting applications for the Section 8 Waiting List in accordance with the provisions of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended. A Lottery System will be used; there is no advantage to being first to apply. Arlington Housing Authority has not been awarded any additional Vouchers. Vouchers will be issued based on future turnover. We will be distributing applications at the Housing Authority office at 4 Winslow Street, Arlington, MA on the following dates:

Tuesday, February 19, 2002	from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Wednesday, February 20, 2002	from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Thursday, February 21, 2002	from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM and 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Friday, February 22, 2002	from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

You may qualify for this program if your Gross Family Income is less than:

Total Family Members	Income Limit	Total Family Members	Income Limit
1	\$24,500	5	\$37,800
2	\$28,000	6	\$40,600
3	\$31,500	7	\$43,400
4	\$35,000	8	\$46,200

Applications may be requested in person or by phone during the four-day period. If you have a disability and require an accommodation, please call 781-646-3400, extension 19. For an application to be considered, it must be returned no later than March 4, 2002 at 4:00 PM at the Arlington Housing Authority office or be postmarked no later than that date and time. **Copies, Facsimile or E-mail applications will not be accepted. Applications must be completed fully, signed and dated. No documentation is necessary at this time.**

The Lottery will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2002 at 12:00 NOON at the Arlington Housing Authority office for all applications received by the deadline.

Applications will be accepted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, or marital status.

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Candidate steps forward

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

Some Arlingtonians may remember Jeffrey Anderson as the 18-year-old candidate for selectmen five years ago. In the five years since he lost his bid for office, Anderson has enrolled in the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, majoring in political science, and watched Arlington politics from a distance.

Now, the college senior is ready for a second run for selectmen and hopes this time to attract a respectable number of votes and bring out an influx of new voters.

"My main goal is to at least get people involved in the democratic process who wouldn't normally get involved," said Anderson, dressed casually in a New England Patriots' long sleeve T-shirt after returning home from his 140-mile, three-day a week commute to New Bedford.

Anderson makes the journey to UMass-Dartmouth Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. He said he plans to attend graduate school in the fall (closer to home) and major in public administration. He also works at the Nerves Elementary School in Newton in an after-school program.

With only a week remaining for candidates to take out papers for election, it has been a quiet political season thus far. No one really expected a candidate to emerge and challenge the two strong selectmen incumbents up for re-election this year — Diane Mahon and Chairman Charles Lyons.

But that's exactly why he is running, Anderson said.

"There is a kind of political culture in Arlington... I don't want to call it insider, but I think the reason people don't run is that there is a perception that you need to know a select group of people in order to get elected,"

said the 23-year-old.

This is a similar statement to when Anderson ran in 1997, although he admits he said it harsher back then when he was all of 18. Five years ago, there was an open seat on the board and a host of candidates ran for the slot along with incumbent Kathleen Kiely Dias, including Mahon and Paul Schlichtman, now a School Committee member. Jack Hurd took that open slot and Anderson received just more than 100 votes as a high school senior.

It is frustrating that more people his age do not join the political process, Anderson said.

Not that he feels that either Lyons or Mahon is doing a particularly bad job. In fact, he praised both of them, calling Mahon "very well spoken and pretty down to earth. And everybody knows Charlie Lyons," he said.

When asked the benign question of what was one thing that both of them could do better, he thought about it for a few minutes and said, "I don't really want to focus on anything negative. I guess that makes me a different kind of politician," he said, laughing. "I don't spend any money and I don't say anything bad about anybody else."

Anderson goes door-to-door with homemade fliers and his dad, a carpenter, makes homemade signs.

"The fact that candidates can spend thousands of dollars on a local election is just absurd," he said.

In the long run, Anderson said he wants to do better than he did last time and bring people out to the voting booths. Unfortunately, the renewed interest in public affairs that has accompanied the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks has not trickled down to local government.

"But that's why I'm running — to change that," he said.



Jeffrey Anderson

Fewer items on this year's Town Meeting warrant

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

A total of 73 articles will appear before the town's legislative body at this year's Town Meeting, including citizen initiatives decrying the state's affordable housing law, promoting the idea of public power, and at least two articles asking Arlington to become more "green."

The total is less than the 95 articles that took eight sessions, or a full month, to complete in 2001. Yet there appears to be an increase in the scope, if not the amount, of voter-based petitions looking to make changes in public policy.

Paul Schlichtman's campaign that seeks to study just how feasible bringing a public power utility for Arlington has already piqued many people's interest. While it hasn't been done in more than 70 years by any Massachusetts community, Schlichtman has said both in interviews and at a recent Finance Committee hearing that a public utility would both reduce electric bills and restore reliability.

Recently, the state's Department of Telecommunications and Energy requested a \$22.5 million fine be levied against private utility NStar to penalize the company for the outbreak of power outages that occurred last summer.

Saving energy in a different form comprises Article 22, which asks town officials to purchase more fuel-efficient vehicles provided they "fulfill the intended municipal function." While no one expects cops to be driving Honda Civics anytime soon, the article asks for "the most fuel-efficient car available" that meets qualifications.

The well-organized, well-funded and now lawyer-represented Friends of Poet's Corner submitted three policy-based articles.

One asks the town to publicly condemn the state's so-called "anti-snob" zoning law, or Chapter 40B. Designed to increase and provide equitable affordable housing if a community fails to achieve a 10 percent quota, 40B lets a developer appeal local zoning restrictions such as the density of units per acre if 25 percent of the developer's units are affordably priced.

"We realize that it's not just a Poets Corner question we're asking, but a question to everybody," said Poets Corner leader Charles Gallagher.

The article goes as far as to ask the state to waive the provisions of the bylaw if a city or town takes its own initiative by passing measures establishing quotas for affordable housing, something Arlington did two years ago.

The second article asks the town's conservation officials to consider a piece of wetlands that has been cut off from other wet areas because of human activity. The article proposes that the same level of protection be given to that tract of land as normal wetlands. The state calls pieces of land, such as the few wet acres on the St. Camillus property where the Archdiocese would like to build housing, isolated land, which gives the land less protection.

A third asks for developers to pay an additional bond if they build on property 200 yards from a stream or wetland. The bond would be held for five years and constitute 20 percent of the property's value.

Store owners have pulled together to try and rescind the increased fee to sell cigarettes and tobacco products. A \$500 fee was approved last year at the request of Town Meeting member John Deyst after the Board of Health recommended an increase from \$25 to \$100.

"Twenty-five dollars was

ridiculously low, but I can understand how \$500 is a lot to a small business owner," said Carole Allen, chairman of the Board of Health.

Other citizen initiatives include alleviating non-profit businesses of the zoning requirement governing signs, establishing a committee on how funds from the passing of the Community Preservation Act could be used, and implementing a provision that any speaker before Town Meeting make public any financial gain to be rendered from the question at hand.

Government Articles

On the school side, the Arlington School Committee requested funding to build a field house in back of Arlington High School. The field house is one of the tenets of the deal between the town and industrial polluters to clean up the Warren A. Peirce Field and adjoining areas. A foundation of a potential field house would cap contaminated soil that lies beneath.

The Capital Planning Committee denied including a field house in its budget this year and the School Committee will ask Town Meeting voters for support of the article.

An additional amount of money is required to finish the Hardy Elementary School, also included in a warrant article.

The Redevelopment Board has asked to incorporate changes in

its environmental design review, a new set of regulations governing potential developments. The board also submitted an article that sets regulations that incorporate bicycle parking into parking regulations throughout the town.

In addition, one of the pledges the town committed to in purchasing the former Symmes Hospital campus is that it would give money back to residents to reduce the tax rate once the property generated revenue. A warrant article asks Town Meeting to approve home rule legislation to implement that pledge.

The Arlington Advocate will publish articles dealing with specific warrant articles as Town Meeting approaches.

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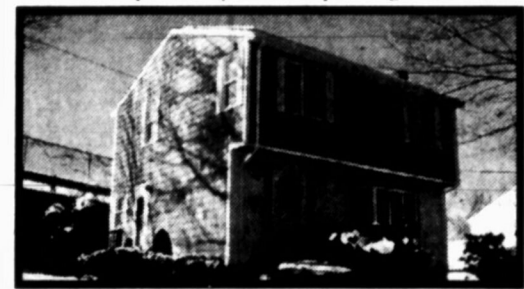
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Arlington: Move right in! Open living and dining area with recessed lighting. Hwd floors, finished lower level, Dallin school. Near bus. \$390s



Mary Lou Bigelow



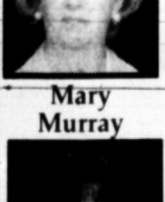
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Kathryn Mazzone



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Arlington: Spacious one bedroom Condo in Old Colony. Eat-in-kitchen, great closet space, tiled bath. Parking and pool. Only \$149,000



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Arlington: Affordable 3 bedroom Ranch with fireplaced family room, large fenced yard and garage. A/C. Convenient to bus. Low \$300s



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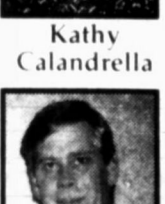
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Players weave tale next month

All Merely Players is proud to present its second production, "Charlotte's Web." Based on E.B. White's timeless tale of true friendship, the story has been adapted to the stage by playwright Joseph Robinette. Performances will be at St. Camillus Church Parish Hall on March 8 at 7 p.m. and March 9 and 10 at 2 p.m. Seating is reserved. All Merely

Players does offer discounts to groups, and gladly welcomes classes, clubs, troops, whole families, and other organizations. For groups 20 or more, tickets are \$6 each. For groups 10 to 19, tickets are \$7 each. Individual tickets are \$8 each. Special arrangements are being created for young theatergoers. For more information, please phone 781-648-3662 or e-mail allmerelyplayers@lycos.com

Blues are a joy for local photographer

Cooper receives arts council grant

BY LES G. MASTERTON
STAFF WRITER

When Arlington resident Margo Cooper started photographing the blues, she wanted to highlight more than performances. Cooper hoped to spotlight the blues experience and way of life. The photographer wanted to show the whole range of the musicians and their music: onstage, offstage, how fans reacted to them, and view their environment. Now, Cooper goes to Mississippi a couple of times a year and travels through the back roads, sweaty blues clubs, and family homesteads that dot the land-

scape of the northern hills of the Magnolia State. Through those journeys, she has become friendly with blues musicians and many locals in rural Mississippi. Her photography shows blues men and women working their craft, such as B.B. King, Othar Turner, and Bo Diddley, and the blues culture of Mississippi, in addition to shots of families enjoying a barbecue and a local pulling a net-full of fish from muddy waters. "The blues is heart and soul," said Cooper. "Blues is the people's music and its impact is felt around the world. The blues can bring people together, yet it can be just as powerful when played or experienced alone. The blues

evokes response; you can dance to the blues, sing the blues, cry or laugh when listening to the blues. The blues is life, energy, and feeling." Cooper sure wasn't feeling blue when she received one of 22 grants from the Arlington Cultural Council, which is a local cultural council of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and receives yearly funding to support the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in Arlington by dispersing funds to deserving applicants, either individuals or organizations. Cooper was in high school when she first came down with the blues. Over the years, she worked as a public defender, but still couldn't shake the blues — not that she minded.

Cooper always dreamed of meeting some of the blues legends and experiencing their surroundings. In 1993, Cooper started taking photos of blues musicians and five years ago, started traveling to Mississippi to catch a glimpse at the blues culture.

"I didn't know what to expect when I first traveled to Mississippi and Chicago," she recalled. "Every trip has been amazing; the hospitality unforgettable. Many of the blues greats were gone before I started my journey; some have passed since that time. So, I feel very lucky every time I get to hang out with musicians like Sam Carr and Othar Turner again, just can't get enough."

After six years as a public defender, Cooper took a year away from law and enrolled in a photography course. She wanted to start a documentary photo project and began taking shots at local blues clubs. She also volunteered for a magazine called "Blues Wire," which focused on musicians and events around New England.

After "Blues Wire" closed, Cooper started working with "Living Blues," a magazine based out of Mississippi.

Cooper has used her own money to fund the trips and costs associated with her hobby. However, after seeing an announcement in *The Advocate* last year mentioning that the Arlington Cultural Council was seeking applications, Cooper called council co-chair-

man Shari Craig. "Shari was extremely helpful. It's important to know that there are people volunteering their time working on a committee, who are generous with their time and support. [Craig] really guided me through the process," said Cooper.

One of Craig's ideas was for Cooper to contact the Arlington Center for the Arts, which agreed to host an upcoming fall show featuring the photographer's work and blues music.

"When you talk about grants coming from a community, it reflects on the community that there are people out there who are committed to the arts," she said.

For as much as Cooper appreciates Craig's help, the Cultural Council was equally as pleased with the photographer's work.

"We were very excited about the project," said Craig of Cooper's application. "It seemed like something that would benefit both her and the town. There's not a whole lot of blues music around Arlington."

On the subject of 2001 applications, Craig said the council received around 10 more than in 2000. Though the state budget quagmire looked as though the cultural council might have to deal with less money, Craig said the local group received about the same amount of funding as the previous year.

During this year, Craig said the council would like to gain more community dialogue. She said the group hopes to sponsor a meeting where representatives from many different factions in Arlington come together and talk about priorities in the arts. Craig added that the council also would like to sponsor its own project through a grant and will seek the public's thoughts on potential ideas.

If the council progresses with its own project this year, members have a supporter in artists like Cooper.

"It has been my good fortune that a dream, a drive and the love of photography brought me to the blues musicians and scenes I've encountered along the way," said Cooper.

Arlington Arts Council grants

The Arlington Arts Council's list of grant recipients. Of the 40 applications received, the awards for this year are as follows:

Cantilena, Inc. — choral concert — \$1,000
Daniel F. Marshall — concert of original music — \$1,418
Pasquale Tassone — dance/contemporary music — \$3,500
Ruth Harcovitz — music performance — \$500
Adria Arch — art catalogue and talks — \$1,300
Jennifer Ingram — Arlington landscape paintings — \$790
Mary Babic — photographs/bike path — \$950
Margo Cooper — photographs and lecture/blues musicians — \$2,254
Arlington Children's Theater — performances — \$1,000
St. Agnes School — art and science journal — \$400
Brackett School — Petticoat Patriot — \$315
Brackett School — Chariot of the Sun — \$325
Lesley Ellis School — dancer/artist in residence — \$

195
Townwide PTO Enrichment — Dance Caliente — \$2,000
Peirce School — Chinese poetry — \$600
Stratton School — History Assembly — \$385
Thompson School — Bolivian band performance — \$700
Arlington Public Schools — arts collaborative — \$822
Arlington Center for the Arts — Performances in the Park — \$2,000
Arlington Center for the Arts — Open Studios — \$2,000
Karen Welling — music, art, movement for seniors — \$960
Alvin Harding — wRECK-TANGLES sculpture — \$50
The 2002 grant cycle will begin on Oct. 15, when this year's applications are due (for projects completed in 2003). Applications will be available starting in mid-September at Robbins Library, the Selectmen's Office, and at the AAC Town Day booth. For more information, call either David Silverman (781-646-5237) or Shari Craig (781-643-5807), or e-mail the AAC at arlington@mass-culture.org.

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One of the photos Arlington resident Margo Cooper took during her visits to the northern hills of Mississippi. Cooper takes photos relating to blues music.

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David A. Leone

Real legal cases are quite different from the drama portrayed on television and in the movies today. When you want practical advice about legal matters, contact our office. Located in Arlington Center, we are here to assist you in understanding the system. We conduct a general civil practice, concentrating in the areas of personal injury, business law, real estate, wills/trusts & estates, probate, family/divorce law, workers' compensation, bankruptcy, and civil litigation in both the State and Federal courts. Come to us when you want a family practice with family values.

In a criminal case, the prosecutor has the burden of proving guilt "beyond a reasonable doubt."

AFD takes audience to Mexico in 'Iguana'

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

We're all too used to hearing about stories about finding hope and meaning in our changed world these days, whether it's feeding the hungry in a soup kitchen or shedding a hidden tear or two at U2's Super Bowl halftime show that memorialized the Sept. 11 attacks on Sunday.

Perhaps those finding atonement in the hands of despair should best look to those who came before them. Take in Tennessee Williams' "The Night of the Iguana" this weekend, performed by Arlington Friends of the Drama, for some research.

Amidst a dreamy deep blue backdrop painted with stars that look like swirls of mist are dimming their glow, "The Night of the Iguana" begins and ends in a run-down seaside resort in Mexico owned by Maxine (Sydelle Pitas), a desirous, recently widowed owner whose husband's death brings more relief from their nonexistent relationship than sorrow.

When she's not trysting with her bellhops Pancho and Pedro, the object of Maxine's affections is Lawrence T. Shannon (Will MacDonald), a defrocked priest unable to control or admit his appetites. Shannon, now a tour

guide, frequently deflowers a young girl in his tour groups, all the while engaging in a spouting of rationalizing and denial.

His latest mistake catches up with him, as a chaperone on a Texas group's church tour finds out that Shannon has had a one-night affair with Charlotte Goodall (played with a thick as molasses southern drawl by Meghan Finnerty). The church leader sees through his deception, and Judith Fellowes (Janet Ferreri) engages him with a vehement hostility.

Inevitably his vicissitudes get the best of him. He loses his job, crashes psychologically, and Maxine picks up the pieces and holds on.

These two are joined at the resort by Hannah and her "97-years-young" grandfather Nonno (played by 35-year Arlington Friends veteran Ernest Stevens) and Hannah (award-winning actress Janet Dauray), orphaned early in her life, who exists on her own plane of self-denial — that of a spinster who has sacrificed her individuality and sexuality for her grandfather. The pair travel around the world, depending on their own talents (she paints watercolors) and "the kindness of strangers." A line those who know Tennessee Williams' work might find famil-

Arlington Friends of the Drama
'The Night of the Iguana'
Friday, Feb. 8 to Sunday, Feb. 10
AFD Theater

iar from Blanche DuBois in "A Streetcar Named Desire."

Nonno, a poet, seeks the gentle breezes of the Mexican shore to finish his last verse as the sun sets on his own mind's faculties. Dressed in a Brahmin-like seersucker suit and bow tie, Nonno's shaky but dignified voice serves as a backdrop to the three other main characters' quests to seek some kind of salvation, as he recites verse in his room, the door closed to the audience.

Set during the Nazi Blitzkrieg of World War II, the amusing but contextually serious supporting cast, who play a pair of vacationing German couples, add another layer of darkness to a play surely headed for tragedy. The foursome parade on and off stage like a dance troupe, at times annoying, at times just silly, yet as they celebrate the bombing of London there is seriousness here, too. It all seems like we're heading for a bad ending — so it would seem.

Directed by Bob Eiland, who directed last year's production of

"The Miracle Worker," "The Night of the Iguana" paces slowly at times, and yet jars you at others. The intensity of the performance by MacDonald blazes with the pathetic nature of a man consumed by his own lies. Dauray, in contrast, brings the quiet intensity of a woman used to playing second fiddle, but not to be underestimated.

Set in the tourist off-season, the quietness of the resort lends to the melancholy, the chipped stucco and streaked paint of the resort's rooms casting another sad glow over the landscape.

There are other moments, including one that involves the reptile named in the title, that change the apparent path of this story.

Hope is to be found in "The Night of the Iguana." It just takes some time.

The show will be presented on Feb. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 at the AFD Theater, 22 Academy Street, Arlington Center. For tickets and information, call 781-646-5922 or visit the AFD Web site at afdtheatre.org.

Society holding meeting

Musical Arts Society will hold its next meeting Sunday, Feb. 10 at the home of Dorothy Libardoni of Medford. The afternoon program includes selections for piano by Libardoni from composers Ludwig Von Beethoven, Zolenska Fibich, and Alexander Soraibin.

Lisa Park of Lexington, young violinist, accompanied by Sayuri Miyamoto, will play the first movement of a concerto in D by Tchaikovsky. Park is the recipient of the Musical Arts yearly award for outstanding youth musical accomplishment. She has studied at the New England Conservatory and the Longy School in Cambridge.

Selections by Bach and Handel

will be performed by Joan Bandini of Lexington, soprano, and Gertrude DeCosta of Arlington, piano.

The program concludes with the Allegro molto from a Beethoven Sonata performed by Rose Marie Gabler of Lexington and Angela Gazza of Arlington using all four hands at the piano. The Musical Arts Society is open to amateur and semi-professional musicians from the area who would enjoy performing for and with each other. New members are welcome.

For more information and directions to the meeting please call Janice Zanganjori at 781-696-9760.

Next meeting on March 17.

Piano festival planned for May

The town of Arlington will hold its annual Piano Festival on May 5.

All Arlington piano students and/or students of Arlington piano teachers are invited to perform. The recitals will show-

case Arlington's talented teachers and their students at all levels from elementary to advanced adults.

For more information and applications call Angela Gazza at 781-646-7768.

Children's Theater will tackle Oz

Arlington Children's Theater will perform "The Patchwork Girl of Oz," in the summer of 2002. Adrian Mitchell wrote the book and lyrics for the show, the music is by Andy Roberts. The play is based on the third book in the Oz series, by L. Frank Baum.

The songs performed will include "Everybody Grets You in the Garden," "Cloudsurfing," and

"Long Away and Far Ago." The show teaches that when small people work together in harmony, great obstacles can be overcome.

For information or to be placed on the mailing list, write ACT at Post Office Box 1076, Arlington, MA 02476 or call 781-646-8204, Ext. 4. The fax number is 781-641-3769 or e-mail at AmberPaw@aol.com.

The Liberty Belle Chorus seeks female singers

The Liberty Belle Chorus of Sweet Adelines International, a competitive award winning women's chorus rehearsing in Arlington, is seeking adult female singers of all ages. You are required to be able to carry a tune, be interested in a cappella ensemble singing and four-part harmony. The ability to read music is not necessary; learning tapes are provided.

Directed by Barbara Braxten, the chorus entertains with ballads, Broadway's show tunes, rhythm and blues songs, and exciting choreography. Weekly rehearsals every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. in St. Camillus Church hall, 1175 Concord Turnpike, Arlington (directly off Route 2, Exit 57).

For information call: 617-735-9354 or 800-369-7400. E-mail:

info@libertybellechorus.org — web:libertybellechorus.org.

LEGAL NOTICES

BLOCK GRANT HEARING 3/11/02
LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF ARLINGTON



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT PROGRAM
PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, and the regulations formulated thereunder, notice is hereby given that the Town of Arlington, acting through the Town Manager and the Board of Selectmen, will hold a Public Hearing on the Community Development Block Grant Program. The purpose of this hearing is to receive proposals for funds for our CDBG Program Year XXVIII (July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003).

Said hearing will be held at 7:15 P.M. MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2002, IN THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE ROBBINS MEMORIAL TOWN HALL, 730 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

The Town expects to receive approximately \$1,545,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for CDBG Program Year XXVIII. There is a HUD requirement that all funded programs must principally benefit persons of low and moderate income, aid in the prevention of slums and blight, or meet other urgent community development needs that pose a threat to the health or welfare of the community. For further information and technical assistance in determining eligibility of proposed programs and in preparing proposals for funding, please contact the Department of Planning and Community Development, 730 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington Massachusetts 02476, at (781) 316-3090.

Proposals for the use of funds must be submitted

in writing. Applicants should provide twelve (12) copies of each proposal to be presented at the public hearing.

The Selectmen's Meeting Room is accessible for the mobility impaired. If you require other assistance in obtaining access to the hearing or to the materials to be presented, please contact the Arlington Commission on Disabilities office at (781) 316-3431 during business hours.

Philip J. Farrington
Town Manager

Charles Lyons, Chair
Board of Selectmen

AD#772415
Arlington Advocate 1/31/2/02

BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM 2/11/02
LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF ARLINGTON



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT PROGRAM
PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, and the regulations formulated thereunder, notice is hereby given that the Town of Arlington, acting through the Town Manager and the Board of Selectmen, will hold a Public Hearing on the Community Development Block Grant Program. This public hearing is intended to obtain views from citizens, public agencies and other interested parties on housing and community development needs in the Town and discuss the performance of the CDBG Program and activities currently underway. An explanation of the funding process and eligibility requirements will be provided. Information gathered at the hearing will be used to assist the Town in the development of its Annual Action Plan as part of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for submission to the

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Said hearing will be held at 7:15 P.M. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2002, IN THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE ROBBINS MEMORIAL TOWN HALL, 730 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

All interested persons are encouraged to attend. Written comments are also welcomed and may be submitted at the hearing or sent to the Department of Planning and Community Development, 730 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02476.

The Selectmen's Meeting Room is accessible for the mobility impaired. If you require other assistance in obtaining access to the hearing or to the materials to be presented, please contact the Arlington Commission on Disabilities office at (781) 316-3431 during business hours.

Philip J. Farrington
Town Manager

Charles Lyons, Chair
Board of Selectmen

AD#772417
Arlington Advocate 1/31/2/02

FROLIC DINER, INC.
LEGAL NOTICE
PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE

In accordance with the regulations of the Arlington Board of Selectmen there will be a public hearing on the petition of **Frolic Diner, Inc., d/b/a Flora, Mary Jo Sargent, President**, located at 190 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02474. Said establishment proposes expansion from 190 Massachusetts Avenue to 190 and 192 Massachusetts Avenue. The establishment seeks to maintain the license to serve Wine & Malt Beverages Only at the expanded location in accordance with the regulations of the Arlington Board of Selectmen. This hearing will take place on **Monday, February 25, 2002** in the Selectmen's Board Room, Second Floor, Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington. The meeting begins at 7:15 p.m.

ARLINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Charles Lyons, Chair
Diane M. Mahon, Vice-Chair
Kevin F. Greeley
Kathleen Kieley Dias
John W. Hurd

AD#779687

Arlington Advocate 2/7/02

205 PLEASANT ST.

LEGAL NOTICE
PLEASANT STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT
COMMISSION
NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 28, 2002 at 8:30 p.m. in the Whittemore Robbins House, 670R Massachusetts Avenue (behind Robbins Library), to consider an application to replace existing shingle siding with like materials, replace 17 existing windows with new doublehung wood windows, replacement of existing gutter with wood gutter, removal and rebuilding of front porch with wood materials at 205 Pleasant Street.

Beth Cohen, Chairperson
Pleasant Street Historic District Commission

AD#779684

Arlington Advocate 2/7/02

54 IRVING ST.

LEGAL NOTICE
JASON GRAY HISTORIC DISTRICT
COMMISSION
NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 28, 2002 at 8:45 p.m. in the Whittemore Robbins House, 670R Massachusetts Avenue (behind Robbins Library), to consider an application to replace the front deck with like materials at 54 Irving Street.

Beth Cohen, Chairperson
Jason Gray Historic District Commission

AD#779685

Arlington Advocate 2/7/02

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MASTERS EMERALD

STEVE O'BRIEN
MASTERS EMERALD

KAREN ZOELLER
MASTERS RUBY

GEORGE MAVROGIANNIDIS
MASTERS RUBY

RICK CONNORS
"ROOKIE OF THE YEAR"

JULIE HORVATH
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LEARNING

SCHOOL NOTES

Pancake breakfast

The 15th annual pancake breakfast is set for Saturday, Feb. 9, 8 to 11 a.m. Adults \$3.50, children, \$2.50, with a maximum family charge of \$12.

If interested in volunteering, call Fran Streitfeld at 641-3807.

Please bring your used books (for kids and adults) for sale during the breakfast. Books should be desirable and in great condition.

It's a great family event where Dallin kids, parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors come together for pancakes, coffee and conversation.

Payment can be made at the door or sent in to the school (checks should be made payable to the Dallin PTO). The menu includes pancakes, sausages, juice and coffee.

Play at Dallin

Information sheets are to be sent home Friday, Feb. 8, for students interested in acting in "Midsummer Night's Dream." Interested students should attend either the casting session on Tuesday, Feb. 12 or Thursday, Feb. 14, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Parents should not leave the children for the entire hour, as the students will only be needed for a short time to talk to the director. Parents are encouraged to stay with their children if they can.

Arrangements will be made for students in after-school. Parents of students who wish to participate should review the information sheet with their child and fill out the information in advance so the student can bring the form to casting. Parts will be available to all interested children in all grades.

First 766 PAC program

The Arlington 766 Special Needs PAC has a full schedule of speakers and roundtables planned for through spring.

The first is on "Basic Rights," presented by Donna Murphy, educational advocate with the Federation for Children with Special Needs. It will be at the Brackett School library on Wednesday, Feb. 13, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Materials will be provided to attendees, so please let the group know whether you plan to attend so they have enough handouts. Parking is available along Eastern Avenue and in the parking lot off Fayette Street.

Murphy is a knowledgeable speaker about the rights of school-aged children with special needs and their families. All families with a child on an educational plan would benefit from this presentation.

Meetings are free and open to the public. All are welcome.

If you have questions about this program or the 766 PAC, call the co-chairs Trish Orlovsky (781-641-0182) or Jan Tonin. E-mails: t_orlovsky@hotmail.com or jantobin@gis.net.

Hardy seeks help

The Hardy PTO's performing arts committee seeks someone to coordinate school-based theater activities with KidStock in Winchester. A KidStock staff member will work with the children to produce a performance in the spring.

One coordinator is needed for grades K-2, and someone else for grades 3-5. Call Susan Blomquist (781-643-8341).

The Hardy School PTO would like to thank everyone who has sent in General Mills and Betty Crocker box tops. The PTO has received its first check for \$267.

To reach the goal of \$500 for the current school year, the PTO needs to submit its next batch of box tops by March 31. Please send to school any box tops to be deposited in the collection box near the cafeteria door.

Upcoming at Hardy:

- Tuesday, Feb. 26, the Myth Masters to perform for third, fourth and fifth grades. Through their skillful blend of theatrical techniques, this group brings the gods and goddesses, heroes and villains, monsters and maidens of Greek mythology to walk the earth once more.

- Spaghetti dinner set for Friday, March 1. Time to be determined. Delicious pasta dinner at the school. Still seeking volunteers to help coordinate the event. Call Ann Marie Zocchi (781-641-2559).

- Ice-skating party set for 7 to 9 p.m. March 16. Volunteers needed. To help, call Mark McCabe (781-648-1895).
- Next PTO meeting, March 6, 6:30 p.m.

Chamber helps PTO

Emily Morrison, Thompson PTO president, issued the following statement:

"On behalf of the Thompson School community, I would like to thank Beth Ryan and the Arlington Chamber of Commerce for the donation of \$200. This generous contribution will fund our school newspaper, The Thompson Times, for the remainder of the school year."

Bishopalooza set

A fund-raising concert to support the Bishop School called Bishopalooza will present three performers of family music on Sunday, March 10, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Bishop.

Ben Rudnick & Friends play upbeat, blue-grassy music for kids of all ages, including parents and

grandparents. For more information, see www.emilysongs.com.

Liz Buchanan has been leading sing-along programs for young children in the Arlington public libraries surrounding towns for almost five years, and has also led singing programs in preschools and elementary school classes. For more, see www.antelopdance.com.

Diane Taraz performs mainly in greater Boston, bringing her velvety voice and vivid songs to audiences of all ages. For more, see www.dianetaraz.com.

Tickets will be sold to the Arlington community starting Feb. 18. All tickets cost \$5.

Information: Contact Diane Gordon, 781-643-5137, dianemgordon@hotmail.com

Bishop musical

Those involved in organizing a musical at Bishop are trying to get a sense of how many children will participate this year. Here are the details:

- For any student in grades 3-5.
- Rehearsals Tuesdays and Thursdays after school until 4:30, with Mondays sometimes required. Begins April 1 and runs through performance June 6 and 7.

- Tuition is \$150. (No money due now.)

- Cathy Alexander of Winchester Co-op Theatre will again be directing, with her excellent staff. The play is yet to be determined.

Peirce benefit

Arlington singer, guitarist and songwriter Liz Buchanan is set to perform Tuesday, Feb. 19, at 10:30 a.m. on behalf of Peirce School's third annual enrichment benefit.

The program, "Sing-along and Musical Fun with Liz Buchanan and Friends," is scheduled to be held at Calvary United Methodist Church, 300 Mass. Ave. Snow date is Feb. 20.

Performing with Buchanan will be flutist Mies Boet-Whitaker and percussionist Bob Schulz. This is during school vacation week.

All proceeds will go to the Peirce School enrichment program.

Buchanan is popular among families with young children. Her CD "Make It a Song, Song, Song," released this year, was named a 2001 Finalist for Best New Artist for Young Children, awarded by the Children's Music Web, the only award judged by children and their families.

"Antelope Dance" and her new train number, "Chugga Chugga Ding Ding," are top singles on the local kid pop charts.

In addition to playing and teaching the flute, Boet-Whitaker is a teacher in the Arlington school system. She accompanies Liz on the CD.

Schulz performs percussion programs for schools as well.

Advance ticket prices are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children.

At the door: \$5 for adults and \$4 for children. Those 12 months old and younger are free. Refreshments, CDs and tapes will be for sale.

To buy advance tickets, call Donna (781-646-8514).

Upcoming at Peirce:

- PTO monthly meeting, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 6:30 to 8 p.m., at Brackett cafeteria. The rest of this year's meetings will be held at Brackett. This meeting will focus on organizing the PTO functions in order to ensure a smooth transition to a new board at the end of the school year.

Asian celebration

An Asian Lunar New Year Celebration commemorating the year of the horse is tentatively scheduled for Feb. 8 at the Stratton School. This is a schoolwide event, and volunteers are needed to help run it. If you would like to help, contact Leslie Swartz (781-641-3556) or Sharon Hannon (781-643-3119).

Upcoming at Stratton:

- An organizational meeting for a Colonial Day to take place on May 31 is set for Judi Paradis' house Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. This is a daylong event for third grades from Stratton and Peirce. Information: Michelle Hamblin (781-646-8805).

- The Family Dance on March 1, a fund-raising event. Included will be a raffle for class baskets, as well as pizza and dancing.

- Other PTO events coming up include another opportunity to purchase Stratton School T-shirts, hats and other merchandise, candy sales, an ice-skating party, a TV turn-off week social event and the Family Ice Cream Social and Picnic. A Family Fun Fair is set for May 18.

Brackett fund-raiser

The second grades are having a Valentine's Day fund-raiser to help pay for their upcoming trip to see "Sleeping Beauty." Order fresh roses or tulips from Wilson Farms by Friday, Feb. 8. Pickup on Valentine's Day from 2 to 3 p.m. Order forms are available in the lobby. Questions? Call Denise Healy, 781-643-7963.

Upcoming at Brackett:

- Heritage Day planning meeting, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13, in the cafeteria. Come with detailed description of your country's presentation.

- Academic enrichment committee to meet Wednesday Feb. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Brackett science room. Contact Andrea Gwosdow at 781-646-4251 or andrea@gwosdow.com.

- The PTO needs a committee to organize the June Fair. Contact Lynn Wilson, 781-643-3638 or Elena Bartholomew, 781-646-4678.

Volunteers needed

Planning is under way for the Thompson International Festival, to take place March 23. Volunteers are needed to serve on organizing committees. If you are interested in helping out, contact Emily Morrison (781-648-7539) or Vicki Rose (781-316-3774).

Upcoming at Thompson:

- Scholastic book fair, Feb. 7; volunteers needed during the school day when students visit the book fair with their classes. A volunteer sign-up was sent home. Return the sign-up if you can help. Profits from this book fair are used to provide books to teachers for their classroom libraries. Families can also add to the classroom library by participating in the classroom wish-list program.

Teachers will make a list of books that they would like to see in their classroom and that will add to their students' knowledge and imagination. A classroom wish-list display will be at the book fair. Consider donating a book to your child's classroom library. The books will become a permanent part of the classroom library, and every gift will be recognized with a bookplate identifying your family or child as the donor.

AHS report cards

Report cards for term two will be mailed on or about Feb. 11. At the request of the Parent Advisory Council at its fall meeting, AHS will mail report cards home.

Also at AHS:

- Want to work part time in the AHS Library? Substitute needed to cover a few Fridays and Mondays in February and March, and school officials also anticipate three or four days per/week for late April through June. If you have some computer skills, they can train. Hours generally will run from 8:30-9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

- Jan. 29 was the first meeting of the principal's "random" students group. Each week, eight students — two per/class (one male, one female) — are selected to have breakfast with the principal, dis-



PHOTOS BY KAREN COLEMAN

Dallin students Alex Koch and Olivia Marini enjoy their ice cream, while fifth grader and Student Council President James Mazzola and kindergarten teacher June Byrne show their spirit. The Dallin School community came together to rally behind the New England Patriots as the team prepared for the Super Bowl, which they won 20-17. The cheer "Go Pats" could be heard throughout the school while students and faculty wore red, white and blue and gathered in the gym last Friday. Following the rally, the Student Council and Spirit Committee held a Scooper Bowl sundae party with ice cream provided by Johnnie's Foodmaster.

cuss AHS and offer suggestions for improvements in the school.

- The Faculty Senate was recently reactivated after a three- or four-year hiatus. The goal of this group is to improve the flow of information, dialogue and communication between the faculty and administration.

AHS calendar

- Monday, Feb. 11, extended homeroom period; teen depression survey.

- Week of Feb. 11, report cards mailed.

- Friday, Feb. 15, school vacation begins at close of school.

Kindergarten information

PEIRCE: Orientation for all parents of incoming children who will attend kindergarten at Peirce next September, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, in the Stratton gymnasium. The Pheasant Avenue door will be open. A panel will briefly discuss the procedure for filling out registration forms, PTO activities, kindergarten curriculum, the kindergarten from the parent's point of view. A coffee hour will follow. Registration materials will be given out at this meeting.

BISHOP: Parent orientation (parents only) on Thursday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m. Registration (parents and children) on March 12 at 8:30-11:30 a.m. Mailings for each event were sent in mid-January. Call the school (316-3791) if you have not received information.

STRATTON: Registration, Monday, Feb. 11, 5:30 p.m.; presentation/information, 7 p.m. Registration continues Tuesday, Feb. 12, 9:15 to 10:30 a.m. Forms must be filled out and returned on Registration Day, Wednesday, March 6, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the gymnasium at Stratton School. If you have not received an invitation to the Peirce orientation meeting for 2002-2003, contact the principal's office at 781-316-3736 so an invitation to the orientation can be mailed to you.

DALLIN: Registration information, Wednesday, Feb. 27, from 1 to 3 p.m. Information night: Thursday, April 11, 7 p.m., Dallin library. Visitation: Wednesday and Thursday, April 10 and 11: New kindergarten children are invited to come visit the kindergarten classrooms during the day. Schedules will be made up and sent home in March.

BRACKETT: Registration: Wednesday, March 6, noon, those whose last names start A through L; 1 p.m., those whose last names start M-Z. Orientation/ice cream Social, Thursday, April 4, 2:30 p.m. (families invited).

THOMPSON: Registration information night, Wednesday, March 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. New kindergarten parents are invited to attend a presentation by the Thompson kindergarten teachers in the school auditorium. "A Day in the Life of a Kindergarten Student" will cover curriculum, pacing, parent involvement and transitioning to kindergarten. A question-and-answer period and refreshments will follow. Take this



Kindergartner Bruce Kopka gives a thumbs up for yummy ice cream and for the Patriots at Friday's Scooper Bowl sundae party.

opportunity to meet the kindergarten teachers, current kindergarten parents, support staff and the principal. Registration materials available at 6 p.m. and the presentation will begin promptly at 6:45. The snow date is March 7. Registration for kindergarten is Wednesday, March 6, at 6 p.m. or Thursday, March 7, from 9 to 11 a.m. Snow date is March 12.

HARDY: Parents-only kindergarten orientation and registration night on Monday, March 25, in the gym. Refreshment available at 6:30 p.m.; at 7 p.m. is a short presentation by school personnel followed by an opportunity to register your child. Bring a completed registration packet, (sent out in January) a copy of your child's birth certificate, Social Security number and proof of residency (utility bill, tax bill, etc.) for those unable to attend March 25, registration set for Tuesday, March 26, from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Hardy School office. If your child will be 5 before Dec. 31 and have not received a registration packet, call 781-316-3782.

All kindergarten information at <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/kinder.htm>

School e-mail lists

You can learn what's going in the following Arlington public schools by subscribing to an e-mail list for that school. They are for Arlington High School, Ottoson (two groups), Bishop and Thompson PTO. The latest addition is the list for Stratton PTO.

Each of these e-mail lists is available through Egroups at Yahoo.com. For instructions to subscribe to each list, see <http://www.town.arlington.ma.us/elists.htm>.

School news

You can tell the public news about your public school by e-mailing school-related items to Bob Sprague (bsprague1@rcn.com), communication specialist, Arlington public schools or call 781-641-4490 before 10 a.m. any Monday for publication in The Advocate the following Thursday of that week. School information is posted on the town's Web site.



The Bolivian band Sumaj Chasquis performed at the Thompson School Jan. 25.

Bolivian band at Thompson

The Bolivian band Sumaj Chasquis performed at the Thompson School Jan. 25, for K-2 and for grades 3-5. The program chronicled the history of Bolivia through its music.

Band members live in Arlington and neighboring towns; in fact, one member is a Thompson parent.

They have performed throughout New England, and they provided a soundtrack for a segment of the PBS series "Americas."

At Thompson, they performed native, pre-Columbian music in the native languages of Aymara and Quechua and played traditional instruments, such as

sicus (panpipes) and drums.

With the Spanish conquest came new instruments (the guitar and its Bolivian counterpart, the charango) and a new language (Spanish); these were incorporated into the latter part of the concert. A brief narrative accompanied the music.

"This concert was fantastic," said Elizabeth Stevens of the PTO cultural enrichment committee. "The children jumped up and started dancing."

The event was funded in part by a grant from the Arlington Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

SAT prep courses offered at regional school

BY BENJAMIN HARTMAN
STAFF WRITER

Lexington's Minuteman Regional High School officials say there is no need to spend a fortune taking SAT and PSAT preparation courses, when you can for a fraction of the cost, \$379. Course director and lead instructor Roberta Wolman is a veteran Minuteman English teacher and reading specialist.

Wolman began teaching SAT preparation in 1971. "I've been teaching this course in this community for 25 years well before anybody was doing this," said Wolman.

Due to her experience, she knows the SAT inside and out. Wolman buys and studies all SAT-related material, constantly reads about college admissions, and has taken the verbal portion of the exam more than 60 times.

"We know what the questions are before they come up; that's good teaching and experience. We prepare our instruction based on that experience," said Wolman.

Wolman and the two other instructors John Fusco and Andy Weijer, both Minuteman math teachers, prepare most of the review material themselves. Weijer worked for Kaplan for more than seven years.

"We don't have to deal with a canned product," said Wolman, referring to the commercial programs' tendency to stick with their own material.

Because all three instructors are full-time teachers, they know effective teaching methods, student academic weaknesses, and what topics the curriculum leaves out.

"They know how to explain the same thing 10 different ways, if that is what it takes," said Wolman about the math teachers. "We know curriculum. We know where the holes are in the curriculum, first hand."

For example, Wolman said high schools often fail to teach students complicated vocabulary, the backbone of the SAT verbal section.

"We don't enrich in the schools in the way

that we could," said Wolman. "The upper level college bound courses do not systematically provide skill and drill on vocabulary and I think it's a pity."

So Wolman pounds vocabulary words into her students. "I see too many kids who can benefit from the cramming and the systematic study (of vocabulary)," said Wolman.

According to Wolman, most educators would say her style only prepares the students for the test and not for post test life, but Wolman disagrees.

"When I teach the course, I'm teaching skills at a very sophisticated level that arms kids for college-level reading," said Wolman. "I always say to kids there is life beyond the SAT. You want every kid to walk away with something he can use when the exams all over."

The SAT preparation course begins on Thursday, March 14 at 7 p.m. For more information on this and other Minuteman courses visit the Web site www.minuteman.org or call 781-861-7250.

Minuteman Tech hopes town pays equal share

BY DANA FRONCZAK
STAFF WRITER

The Minuteman Regional High School will again ask Arlington this year to agree that each town should pay an equal share per student.

And despite great budgetary pressures, Arlington's Minuteman Regional School Committee representative Erin Phelps, a former member of the Finance Committee, said she and the finance board will review the request.

"I do think Minuteman is having additional pressures and we're really trying to collaborate," said Phelps. "The Finance Committee is going to look at the budgets and see what we can afford."

Phelps said the committee won't make a decision until late February — at the earliest — when early state budget numbers give the town a better sense of where it stands.

A formula called "assessment by agreement" is the way 15 towns in the Minuteman school district have decided to partially fund the \$15.7 million Minuteman budget. But Arlington favors an alternative proposal fueled by the Education Reform Act that calls for a minimum contribution from each community, which would save Arlington money.

"All of (the member towns) except Arlington give what we assess," said Minuteman Superintendent Dr. Ronald Fitzgerald.

Arlington has by far the largest

enrollment at Minuteman. Of the 383 full-time students, 125, or 33 percent, come from here.

Because state aid is granted to cities and towns based on need, Phelps said Arlington has held a philosophy that it should pay less per pupil than richer communities in the district. Students attend Minuteman from wealthier towns such as Lexington, Lincoln, Wayland, Weston, and Belmont.

"We weren't getting credit for being a less wealthy town," Phelps said. "We have the largest enrollment, we clearly should pay the most, but (educational) reform provided a way to make things more equal."

Arlington's relationship with Minuteman has been cordial this year despite the angry rhetoric that has accompanied this debate in previous budget sessions. Fitzgerald said even a weak economy's pressures on his budget won't change that.

"I don't know what the final answer will be, but the discussions haven't been acrimonious," said Fitzgerald.

Minuteman's budget has increased by 8.5 percent this year, but assessments to each town will only increase by 3.7 percent, due to an influx of new students from Cambridge and expected increases in aid. Minuteman will increase its operating budget by 2.3 percent and ask for \$100,000 to fix its cooling system.

The operating budget hike is mostly attributable to salaries, insurance increases, and utility costs.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS NOTES

Walgreens Pharmacies, at both Arlington locations, will be trading your old, glass thermometers for a new, digital thermometer. The D.E.P. (Department of Environmental Protection) has distributed new, safer, digital thermometers for exchange from Sunday, February 10th until Saturday, February 23rd. Pharmacies across the state are working with the D.E.P. to divert mercury from household waste that is hazardous to the environment. Check with each pharmacy to get details.

The Town of Arlington has been exchanging thermometers since last April and will continue to due so until our supply of digital ones are gone. You can dispose of the toxic mercury thermometers at the Board of Health located in the Fox

Library at 175 Massachusetts on the corner of Cleveland Street, the Building Department located at 51 Grove Street or the DPW office located on the second floor of the Town Hall Annex. Please leave glass thermometers in the plastic case if possible. We are asking that each household take one thermometer to give everyone a chance to get one of the digital thermometers. You can also drop off thermostats or other mercury-bearing items at any of these town locations. Call the Department of Public Works at 316-3108 for details.

Recycling calendars

Watch your mail for the 2002 Recycling Calendars. Do not discard — this is not junk mail.

B.E.I. (Browning, Ferris Industries) will be mailing them to all residents of Arlington within the next few weeks. Look for the calendar inside the Town Planner Calendar.

The recycling calendar includes all the rules of the recycling program, telephone numbers to call and the schedule for 2002 pick-up dates. Additional copies will be available at the libraries, Council on Aging and Town Hall Annex, DPW office.

If your recycling was picked up on the triangle route last year, it will still be picked up on the triangle route and the same with households on the circle route. If you do not know which route you are on, you can check the DPW's Web site at www.town.arlington.ma.us/dpwsts.htm.

ton.ma.us/dpwsts.htm.

Hazardous waste

The Minuteman Household Hazardous Waste site in Lexington is closed for the winter. It will reopen in April.

Water-based paint can be dried out and put in the regular trash. Oil-based paint and stains will need to be disposed of when the site reopens in the spring. If you change your own oil and need to dispose of used oil, you can do so at the Winchester Transfer Station every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is located off McKay Street near Winchester Center.

Please bring proof of Arlington residency to dispose of oil at the station.

Groups against hate crimes

If you have witnessed or been the victim of a hate incident or crime or are concerned about a hate incident or crime, the following groups in Arlington are here to support you and assist you in whatever way they can. Please do not hesitate to call one or more of them.

Arlington Police Department — Chief Fred Ryan — 781-316-3900
Arlington Human Rights Commission — Sheri Baron — 781-646-0656
Arlington Department of Human Service — Patsy Kraemer — 781-316-2150

Arlington Public Schools — Joani LaMachia — 781-646-9130
Affirmative Action Advisory Committee — Barbara Boltz — 781-648-1079
African American Society — Nan Henderson — 781-643-5363
Board of Selectmen — Charles Lyons — 978-671-3602
Chamber of Commerce — David Walkinshaw — 781-643-4600
Commission on Disabilities — Barbara Cutler — 781-648-1813
Diversity Task Group of Vision 2020 —

Norah Lewis — 781-646-8203
Fair and Affordable Housing — Laura Wiener — 781-316-3429
Interfaith Association — Rev. Linda Privitera — 781-648-5962
League of Women Voters of Arlington — Jean Hopkins — 781-643-0349
Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Committee — Janice Bakey — 718-643-4345
Safe School Task Force/Arlington Schools — Cindy Bouvier — 781-316-3570
Vision 2020 Standing Committee — Jane Howard — 781-648-1936

Relay For Life holding rally

The Relay For Life in Arlington raised more than \$42,000 in 2001. This year, organizers want the Relay For Life to be even bigger and better and they need your support.

The Rally for the Relay For Life will be held on Wednesday, March 6, from 6.30 to 8 p.m. at Robbins Library. The rally is in tree evening of fun and information for you to find out how to join your community in the fight against cancer.

Please RSVP to Helene at 617-556-7475 or via e-mail at helene.palmer@cancer.org.

Comedy Night will be held on Friday, March 22 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Sons Of Italy Hall, 19 Prentiss Road, Arlington. There will be a cash bar, buffet and a 50/50 raffle. Admission is \$20 payable at the door after registering at 617-556-7475 or via e-mail at helene.palmer@cancer.org. Seating is limited.

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An Informational Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, February 26th at 6:00pm.

The open house will take place at 15 Webster Avenue site.

Sign-ups for building tours will be available at the open house and in the Main Office of 15 Webster Avenue.

For more information, please call Cathy Traniello at (617) 629-5800.

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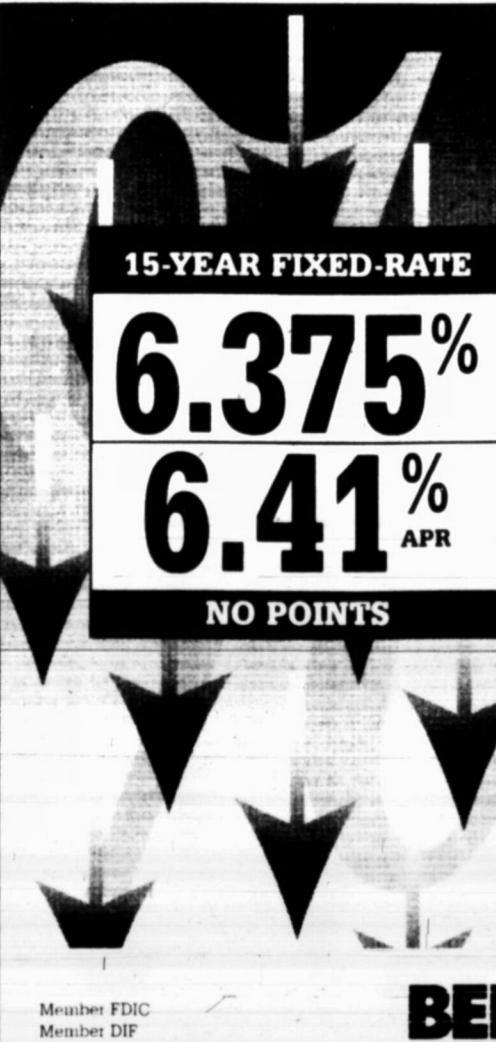
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1/02

Blocking fire lanes could cost lives

The following was submitted by the Arlington Fire Department.

Have you ever parked a vehicle in front of a fire hydrant or in a fire lane? Have you ever had the need to call the Fire Department for an emergency and thought that it was taking a long time for them to arrive?

We all live in a rapid-paced society of instant Internet access, convenience shopping, fast food and fast money. So, when you need a place to park for a quick errand, you think any open space will do. However, clear and unobstructed access to fire hydrants and to buildings with high occupancy levels is necessary to allow the firefighters to provide the public with prompt and appropriate service in times of emergencies.

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, you are probably typical of most people. Unfortunately, the public perception of fire hydrants and fire lanes is too often: "There's a space, it will only be a minute... this fire hydrant hasn't been used in years, it will only be a minute... there's plenty of room here for the fire trucks and my car too, I'll only be a minute... why do they need all this room for a fire truck, I have an important meeting to attend."

The common theme in all these scenarios appears to be: I need this space now and the Fire Department does not. Through this article, we hope to make our citizens more conscious of the threat to life safety when a hydrant is blocked or a fire lane is obstructed.

Fire trucks are long, wide vehicles that require

more space than most people realize to safely maneuver through intersections and corners. What may seem to be sufficient room to you may not be enough space for the fire truck.

So, please, when you see "No Parking — Fire Lane" signs near a corner or bend in a street, do not think: I can park here, the fire trucks have all the space in front of the building.

If vehicles park on both sides of that corner, the fire trucks cannot safely and promptly negotiate the turn and their response to the emergency will be delayed.

Time is life in our profession. Any delay, no matter how short, can result in the unsuccessful administering of life saving CPR, cardiac defibrillation and epinephrine intervention. In the case of a small room fire, with every minute, the fire triples in energy and smoke generation.

Without a rapid water attack at the seat of the fire, it will swiftly grow in intensity. During the next eight minutes, the temperature at the ceiling will rise to 1000 degrees, creating a deadly phenomenon called flashover. All of the combustibles will then spontaneously ignite in a flash of flame that will cause the death of anyone in the room, fire fighter or civilian.

The Arlington Fire Department is committed to providing appropriate, knowledgeable and professional service to the citizens of our community. In return, we only ask that you acknowledge and respect the need for fire lanes and fire hydrants to remain clear and unobstructed so that we may provide our life saving services.

The mouse that stereotyped

Human Rights dialogue explores media impact on children

BY HELENE NEWBERG
CORRESPONDENT

When it comes to entertaining young children, many families instinctively reach for Disney movies. Drawing on warm associations with Disney characters from their own childhood memories, parents of young children believe that Disney movies are not only better than many other available choices, but also wholesome on their own merit.

Diane Levin, professor of Early Childhood education at Wheelock College, encourages parents to reconsider.

"I started studying the impact of entertainment media on children about 20 years ago, when I noticed changes in the quality of their play," she said, remarked that the 20-year milestone coincides with deregulation of children's television programming.

Levin presented the 10th Arlington Human Rights Commission Arlington Dialogue last Thursday at Robbins Library. The Arlington Human Rights Commission sponsors quarterly dialogues on issues of concern to the Arlington public, including racial profiling, sexual harassment, affirmative action, and fair housing.

Marlissa Briggett of the commission said, "We decided to have a dialogue focusing on stereotypes in children's media because it seemed important and relevant to parents who are concerned with raising their children free from bias."

"We were thrilled that she agreed to lead the workshop. We were pleased with the large turnout, particularly in light of the ice storm [last Thursday]. Seeing so many people confirmed that the topic struck a chord with Arlington parents," said Briggett.

Deregulation of children's television increased the amount of commercial time allowed, reduced the amount of educational programming required, and made it easier to turn children's programming into marketing vehicles for accompanying toys, Levin said at the event.

"It squashes their creativity, when kids act out the movie by imitating the scripts they've seen," said Levin. "Kids often

don't understand what's going on or have direct experience, so their media-related play is straight imitation, often of the most graphically violent elements of what they've seen."

Media conglomerates, according to Levin, and the producers of the informational film, "Mickey Mouse Monopoly" exploit children developmentally by playing on fears.

"Because kids are wired to understand the world in terms of 'what is like what I know and what is not like what I know,'" said Levin, "Disney, and many others who produce children's entertainment, draw from and reinforce stereotyped attitudes toward race, class, and gender."

In terms of gender, Disney's portrayal of females involves a large chest and impossibly narrow waist, which has changed little since the 1940s, she added.

"Because kids pick up on the most salient features presented, male character bodies have become more impossibly muscled, female bodies have become increasingly unnaturally thin," said Levin, adding that the violence has become more graphic too.

Stereotyped characters often serve as a short-cut to inappropriate multicultural education, Levin said, and she also pointed a trail of stereotypes in Disney films:

Disney's "Pocahontas" portrayed the trouble between the European settlers and the Native Americans already present as a failure to understand one another, removing the genocide and colonialist motive behind the European land-taking from the dialog.

No black characters appear in the remake "Tarzan."

In "The Jungle Book," gorillas with black people's voices sing about wanting to "be like men." For Latino, black, and Asian families, the message is "We can co-opt your culture, rewrite your history, then surround your child with lunch boxes, sheets, and movie tie-in toys we have taught your child to beg for," said Levin.

For children in white families, these stereotypes sometimes replace firsthand multicultural interactions which might otherwise shape a child's understanding of the world, she said.



Arlington Human Rights Commission

"Most children's media does not have grown ups in roles we would want, since marketing to kids became OK," said Levin. "Young children, instead of seeing that grown ups are there to rely on, they see mothers and other grownups are usually undermined."

Levin told of a kindergarten boy who watched a movie without permission, then had to deal with his nightmares on his own because he wouldn't admit to his parents that he had disobeyed.

"Michael Eisner, Disney's chairman and CEO, has been quoted as saying, 'our job is not to please the audience, but to make money for our shareholders.' Deregulation established that it's the parent's job to protect the child, not the entertainment company," she said.

Levin cited at least one entertainment industry study using top child psychologists to help them better understand how to teach children to nag.

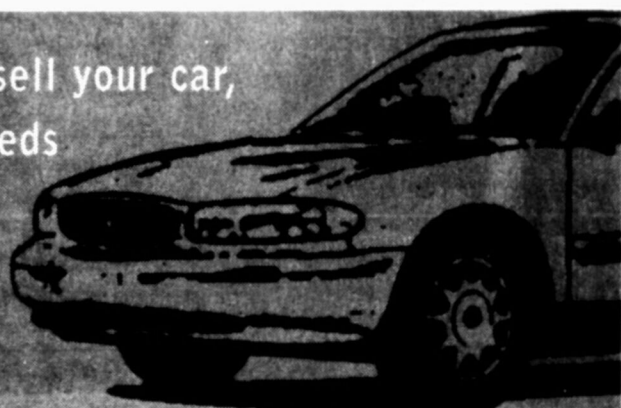
"My other answer is this: children are more resilient than we think. If we keep a finger in the dike as long as we can, so long as the water gets in slowly, then we need to learn how to talk about it," Levin said.

"Look at children and who they are, developmentally. What will help them the most. Look for parents with whom you share values."

Web site resources given to parents last Thursday, include www.trueteachers.org: Media Literacy, with suggestions for parents; www.mediaed.org: information about "Mickey Mouse Monopoly" and other video projects; and www.cqcm.org: The Center for Quality Children's Media; film ratings.

Those interested in future Human Rights Commission events are invited to call the office at 781-316-3250 to sign up for the mailing list.

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THE STORK REPORT

• John and Sheila (McElroy) Masci of Arlington announce the birth of their son, Patrick Joseph Masci.

He was born at Brigham & Women's Hospital on Dec. 22, 2001. He weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces, and

was 19 inches long. He was welcomed home by his big brother, Jay, 19 months. He is the grandson of Patricia McElroy of Burlington, Arthur McElroy of Wakefield, and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Masci of Arlington.

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Mary Ann Dionne, GRI
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